

# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

*Form Approved  
OMB No. 0704-0188*

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<b>1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY)</b> March 2014		<b>2. REPORT TYPE</b> Briefing Charts		<b>3. DATES COVERED (From - To)</b> March 2014- April 2014	
<b>4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE</b> Novel Methodology for the Highly-Efficient Separation of Oil and Water (Briefing Charts)		<b>5a. CONTRACT NUMBER</b>			
		<b>5b. GRANT NUMBER</b>			
		<b>5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER</b>			
<b>6. AUTHOR(S)</b> Joseph Mabry, Anish Tuteja, Andrew Guenthner, Josiah Reams, Arun Kota, Gibum Kwon, Wonjae Choi		<b>5d. PROJECT NUMBER</b>			
		<b>5e. TASK NUMBER</b>			
		<b>5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER</b> Q014			
<b>7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b> Air Force Research Laboratory (AFMC) AFRL/RQRP 10 E. Saturn Blvd. Edwards AFB CA 93524-7680			<b>8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NO.</b>		
<b>9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)</b> Air Force Research Laboratory (AFMC) AFRL/RQR 5 Pollux Drive Edwards AFB CA 93524-7048			<b>10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)</b>		
			<b>11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)</b> <b>AFRL-RQ-ED-VG-2014-051</b>		
<b>12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT</b> Distribution A: Approved for Public Release; Distribution Unlimited.					
<b>13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES</b> Briefing charts presented at ACS National Meeting and Expo, Dallas, TX, 16 March 2014. PA#14128					
<b>14. ABSTRACT</b> Briefing Charts					
<b>15. SUBJECT TERMS</b>					
<b>16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:</b>			<b>17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT</b> SAR	<b>18. NUMBER OF PAGES</b> 37	<b>19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON</b> Joseph Mabry
<b>a. REPORT</b> Unclassified	<b>b. ABSTRACT</b> Unclassified	<b>c. THIS PAGE</b> Unclassified			<b>19b. TELEPHONE NO</b> (include area code) 661-275-5857



# *Novel Methodology for the Highly-Efficient Separation of Oil and Water*

16 March 2014

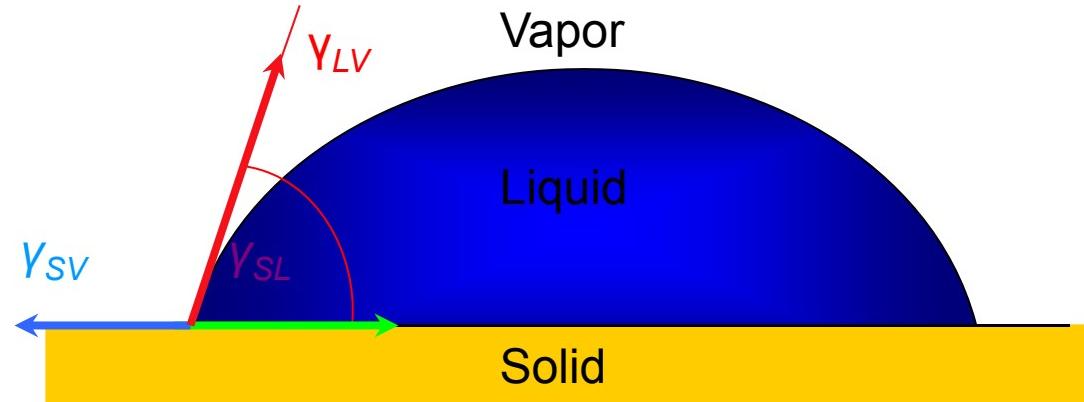


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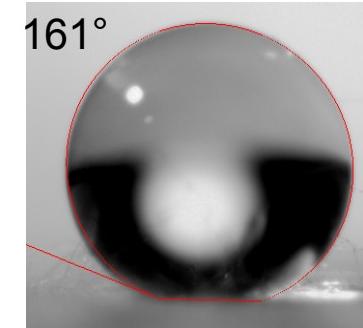
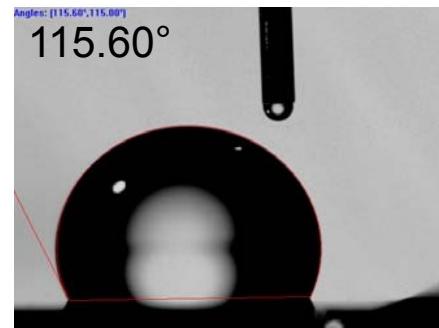
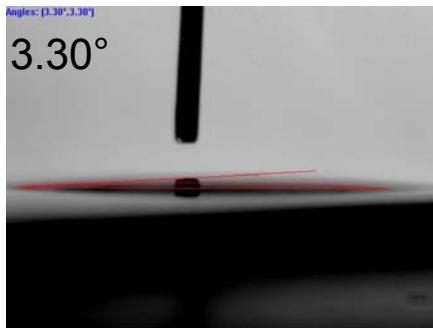
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# Non-wetting surfaces



Contact angles with water:



Superhydrophilic

$$\theta \sim 0^\circ$$

Hydrophilic

$$0^\circ < \theta < 90^\circ$$

Hydrophobic

$$\theta > 90^\circ$$

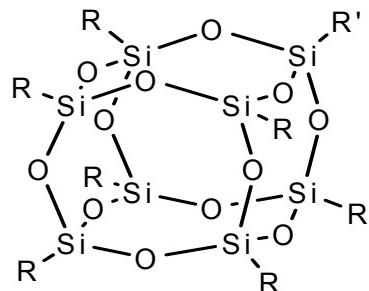
Superhydrophobic

$$\theta^* > 150^\circ$$

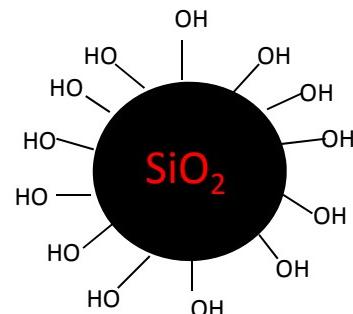
Similarly, superoleophobic surfaces display contact angle  $\theta^* > 150^\circ$  with oils or alkanes



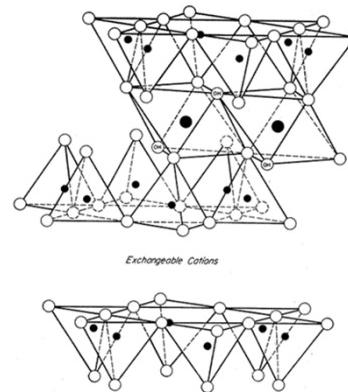
# Nanocomposite Materials



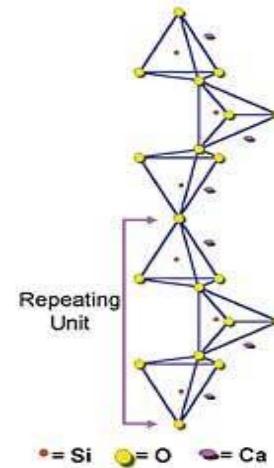
**POSS**



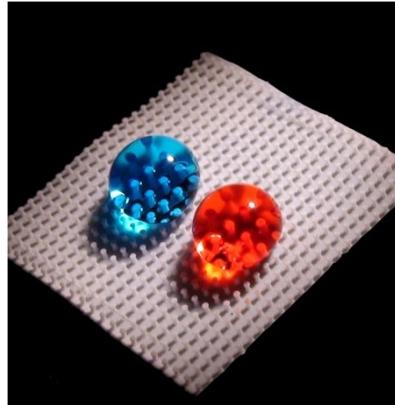
**Nanosilicas**



**Layered silicates**

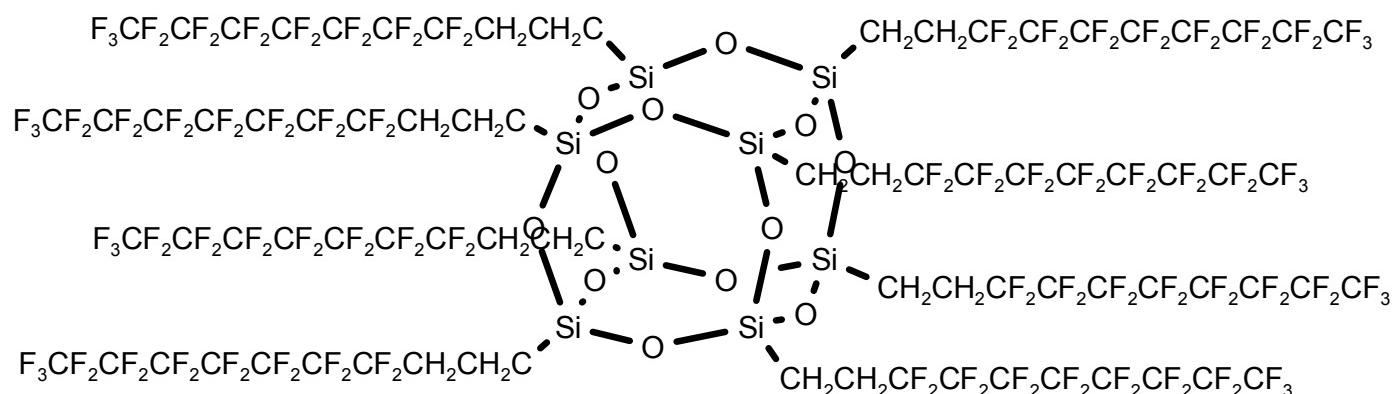
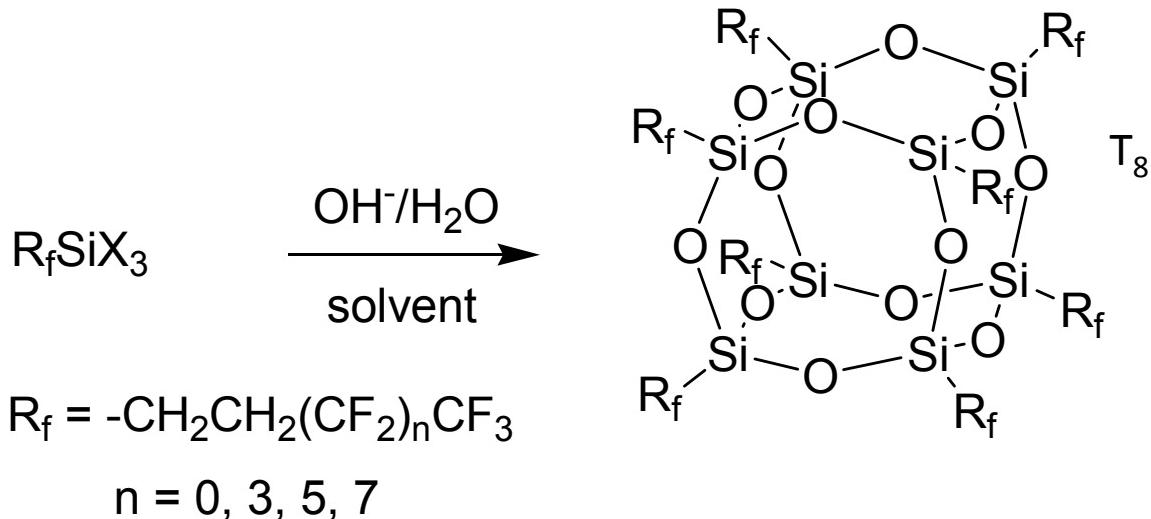


**Linear silicates**





# Fluorinated POSS Synthesis

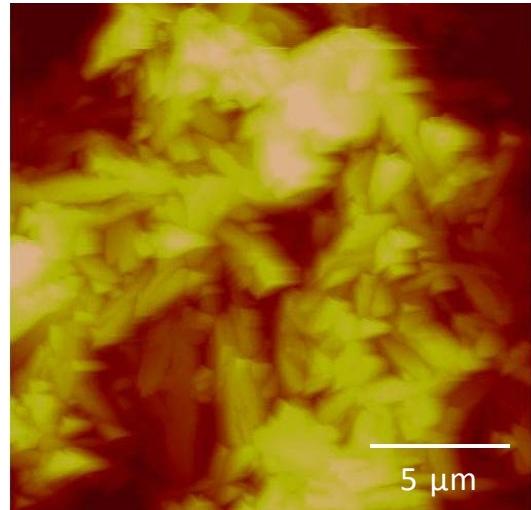


Angew Chem 2008

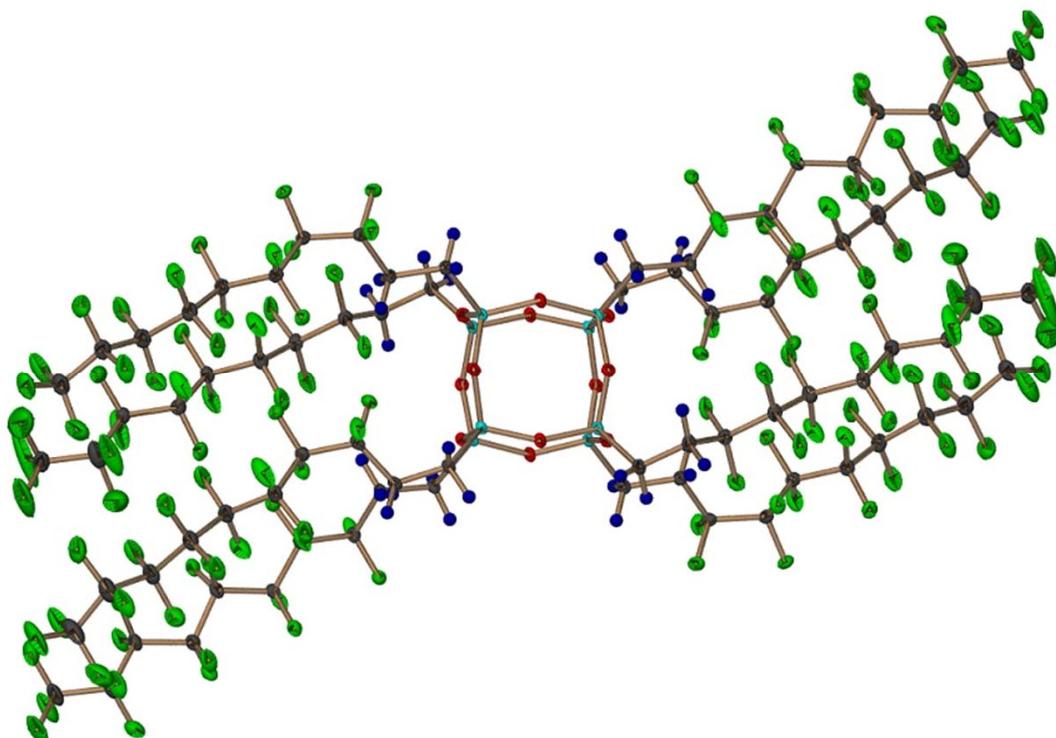
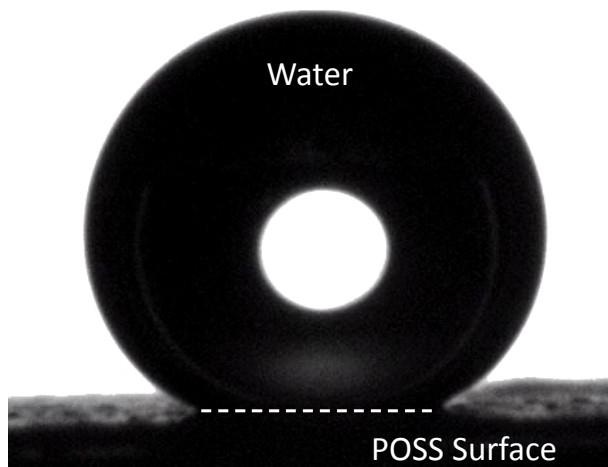
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# Hydrophobic Materials

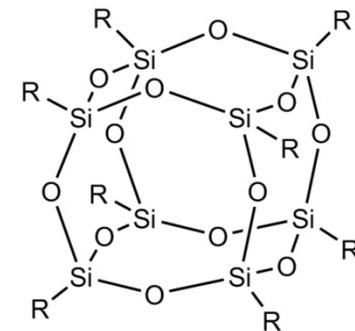
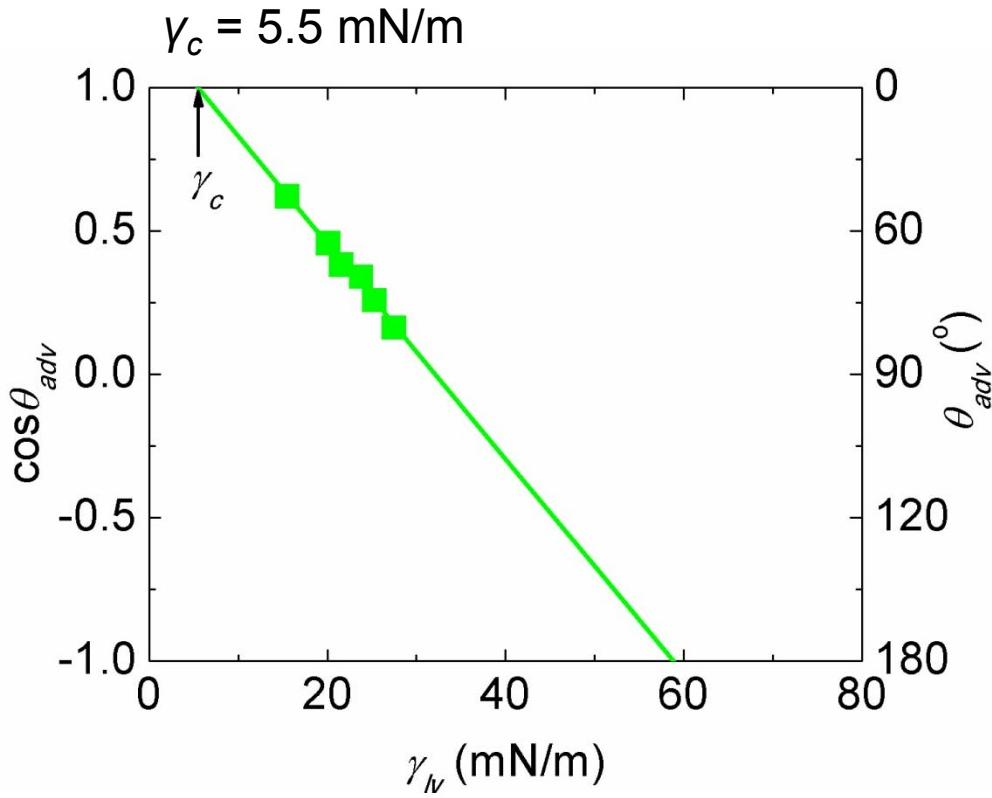


- Spin-cast surface of Fluorodecyl POSS
- ~4 μm rms roughness by AFM
- 154° Water contact angle





# Zisman Analysis



Fluorodecyl:

$R = -\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-(\text{CF}_2)_7-\text{CF}_3$

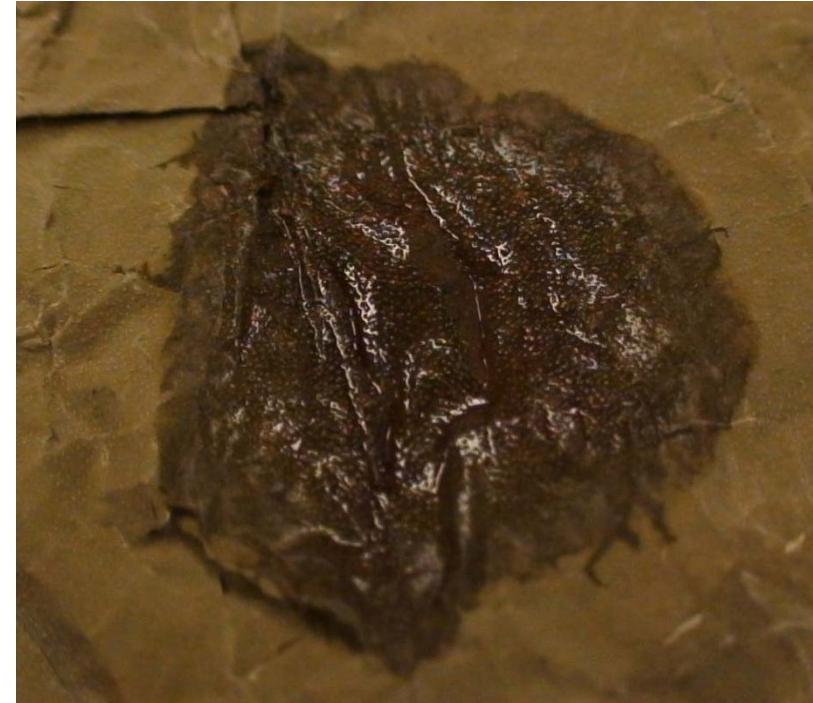
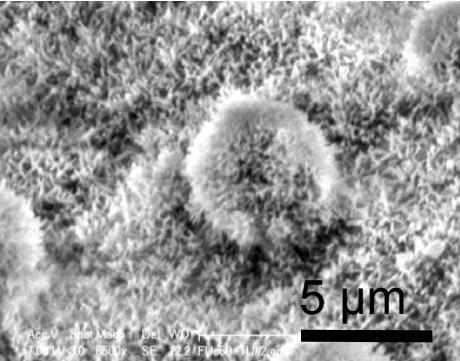
GG analysis results in  
surface energy calculation  
of:  $\gamma_c = 8 \text{ mN/m}$

Contacting liquids:

hexadecane ( $\gamma_v = 27.5 \text{ mN/m}$ ), dodecane (25.3), decane (23.8),  
octane (21.6), heptane (20.1) and pentane (15.5)



# The Lotus Leaf



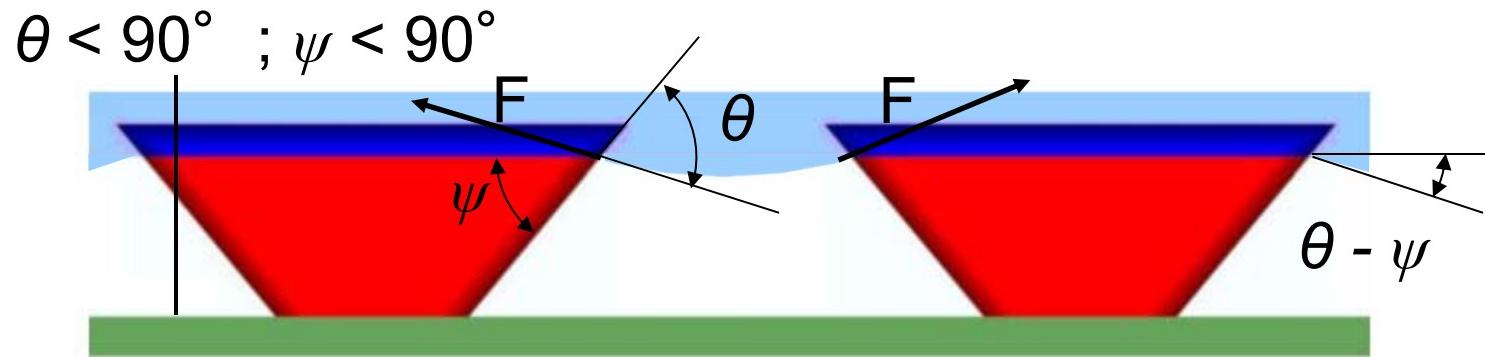
Water,  $\gamma_{LV} = 72.1 \text{ mN/m}$

Hexadecane,  $\gamma_{LV} = 27.5 \text{ mN/m}$

On most surfaces,  $\theta_{oil} < \theta_{water}$ . This is because the surface tension ( $\gamma_{LV}$ ) of water is significantly higher than that for oils.

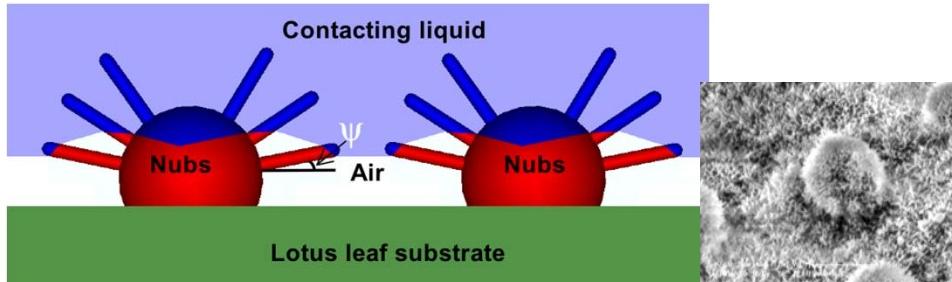


# Critical role of re-entrant texture ( $\psi < 90^\circ$ )

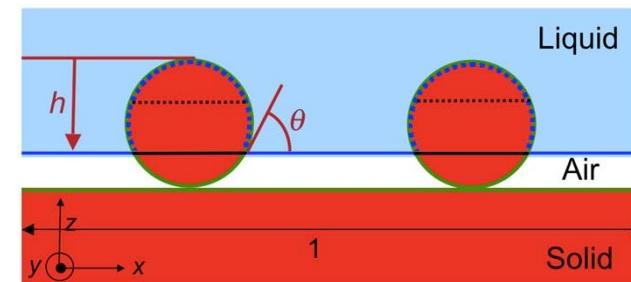


It is possible to support a composite interface even if  $\theta < 90^\circ$

Re-entrant curvature :  $180^\circ > \theta > 0^\circ$



Lotus Leaf



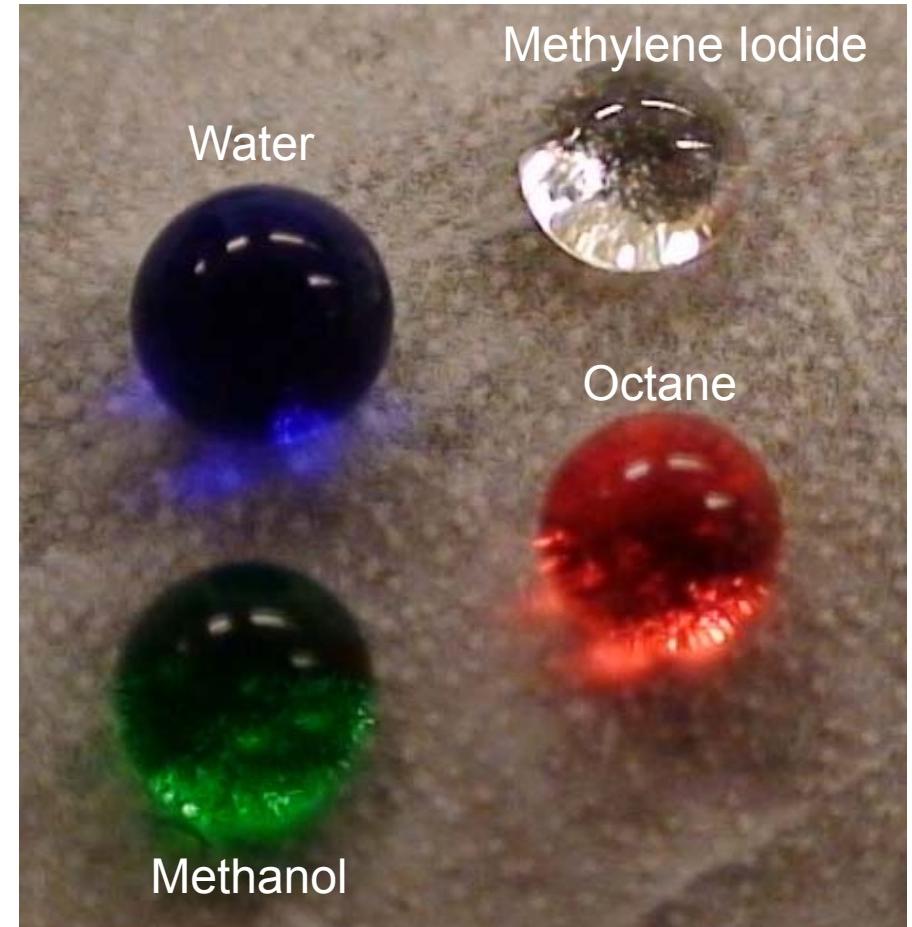
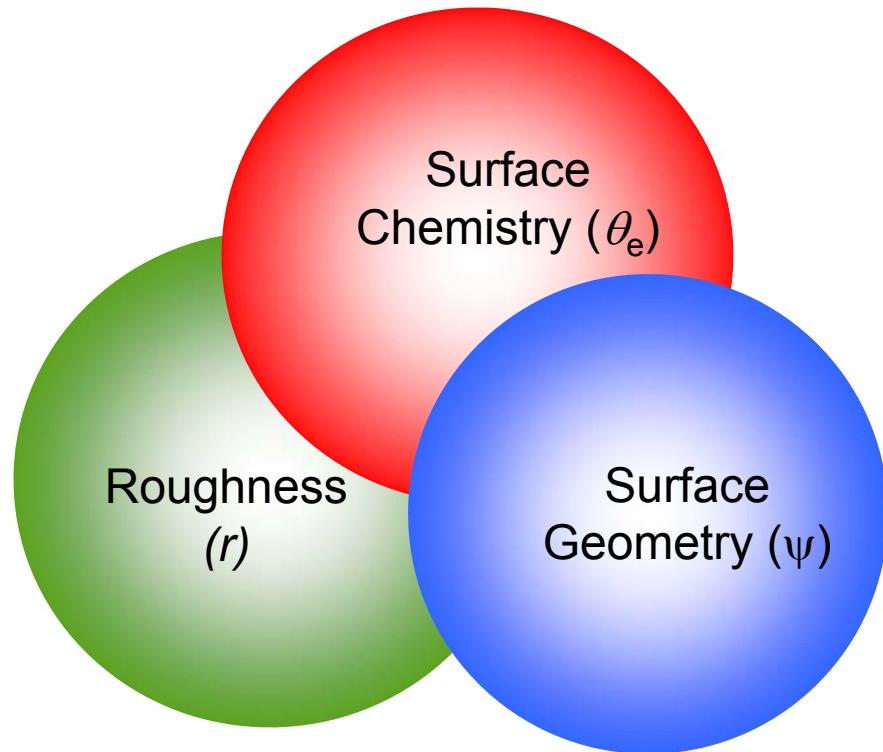
Cylinders / Fibers

Herminghaus, *Euro. Phys. Lett.* (2000), Tuteja et al. *Science* (2007); Tuteja et al., PNAS, (2008).

# Designing Omniphobic Surfaces



- Constructing super-repellent surfaces
  - Three key ingredients



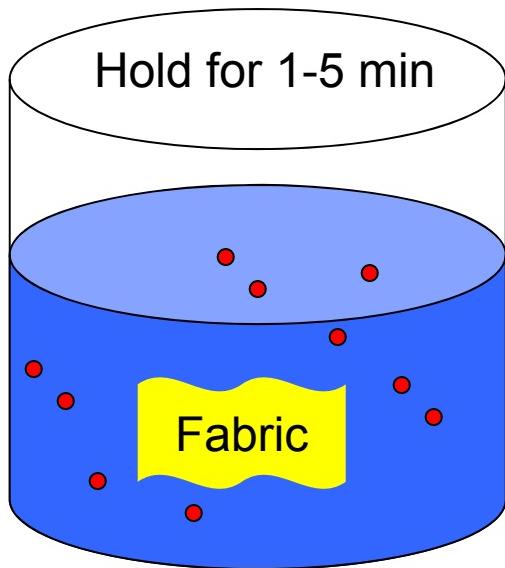
PMMA + 44 wt% POSS  
electrospun coating (beads on a string) morphology



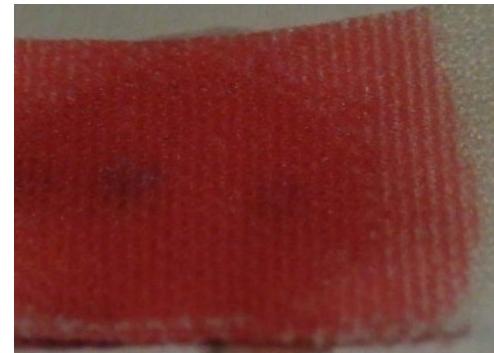
# The Dip-Coating Process



Hexadecane ( $\gamma_L = 27.5 \text{ mN/m}$ ) on an as-received commercial polyester fabric

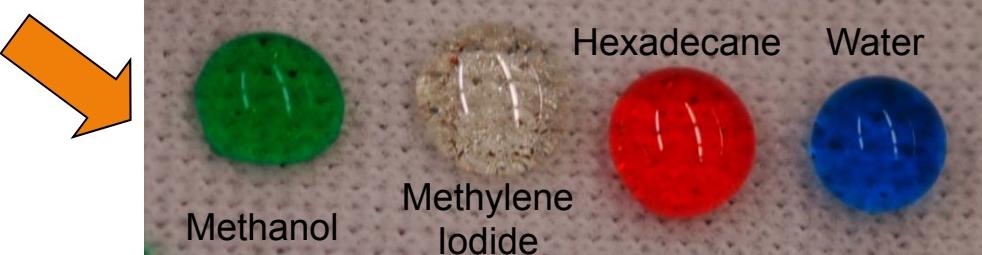


Dip



Before

Dry (heat in oven at 60° C for 20 minutes)



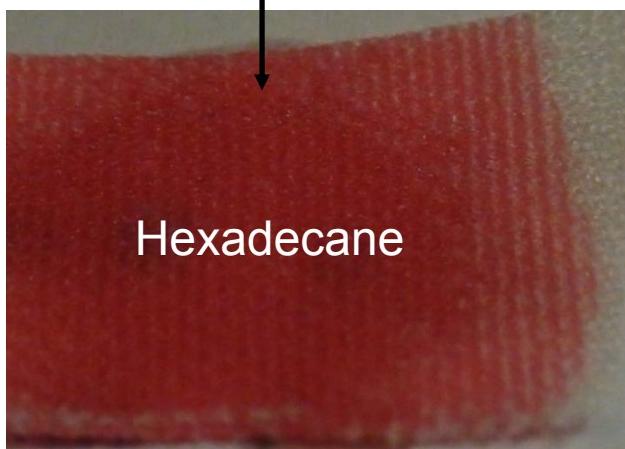
After dip-coating with a solution of fluorodecyl POSS

Solution of fluorodecyl POSS in Asahiklin (30 mg/ml)

# Dip-Coated Polyester Fabric



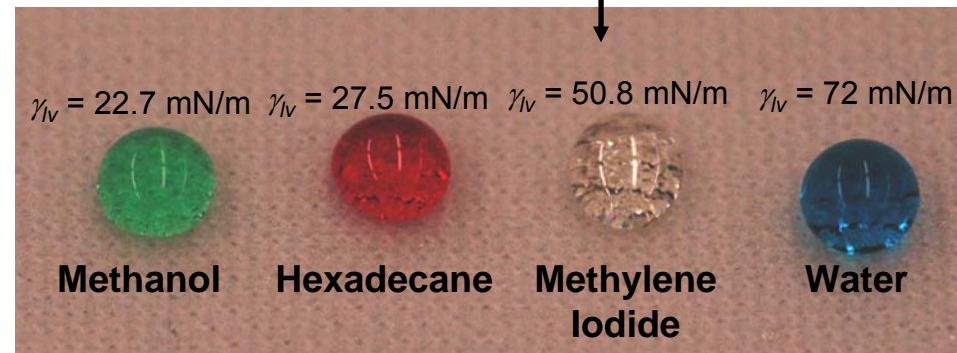
Before coating



Hexadecane



After coating with fluorodecyl POSS in Asahiklin (30 mg/ml)



$\gamma_{lv} = 22.7 \text{ mN/m}$   $\gamma_{lv} = 27.5 \text{ mN/m}$   $\gamma_{lv} = 50.8 \text{ mN/m}$   $\gamma_{lv} = 72 \text{ mN/m}$

Methanol

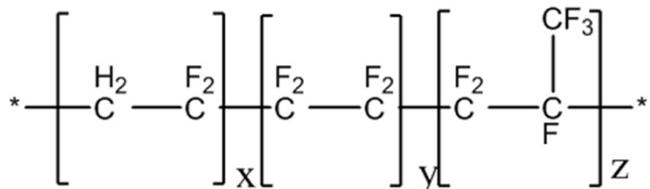
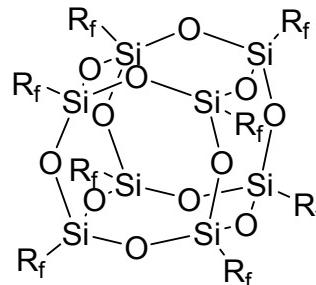
Hexadecane

Methylene  
Iodide

Water



# Dip-coating process for conformal coating of textured surfaces

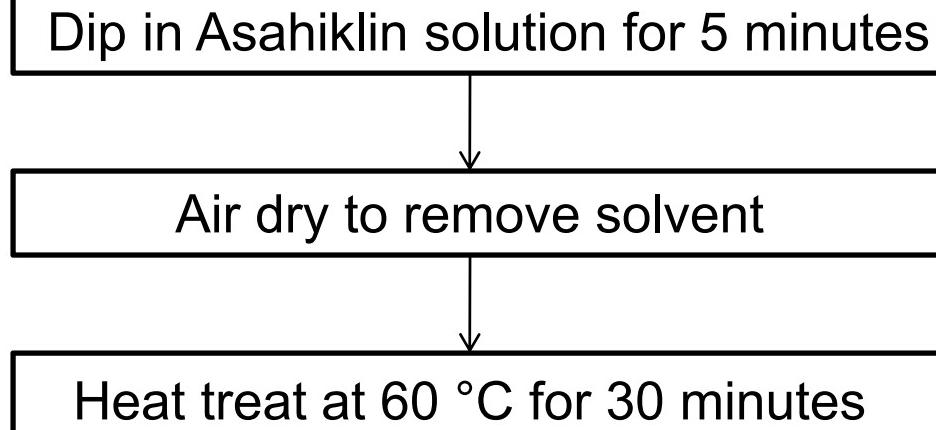


$R_f = -CH_2-CH_2-(CF_2)_7-CF_3$   
Fluorodecyl POSS

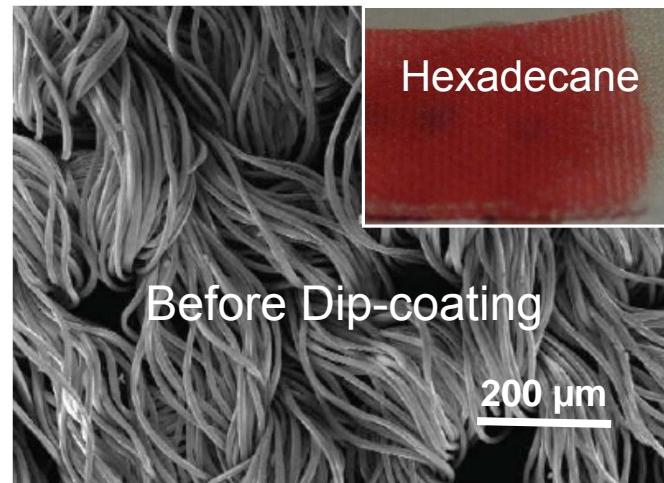
$\gamma_{sv} \approx 8 \text{ mN/m}$

Tecnoflon® (BR9151)  
Fluoro-elastomer from  
Solvay-Solexis  
 $\gamma_{sv} \approx 18 \text{ mN/m}$

50:50 mixture, total solids = 10 mg/ml



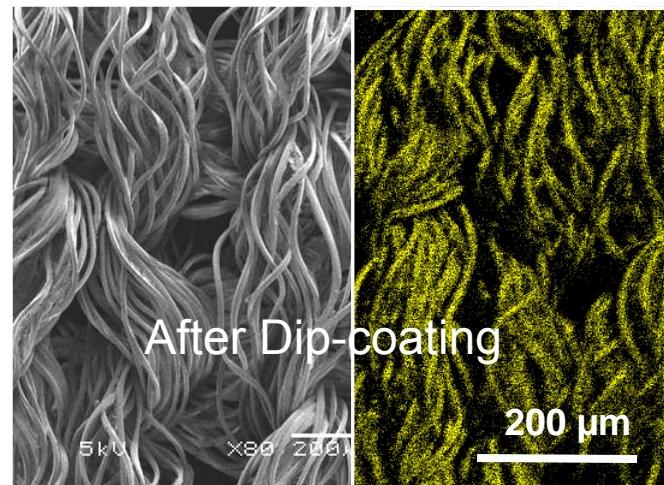
Anticon 100 polyester fabric



Before Dip-coating

200  $\mu\text{m}$

EDAXS spectrum for fluorine



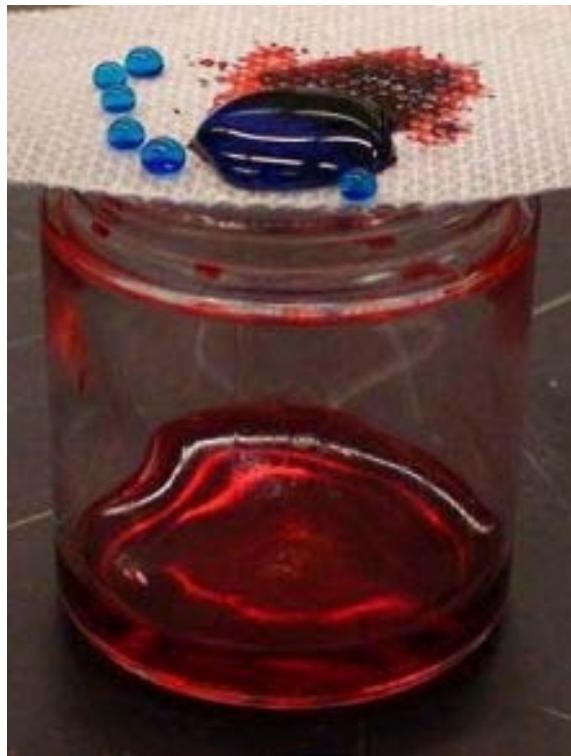
After Dip-coating

200  $\mu\text{m}$

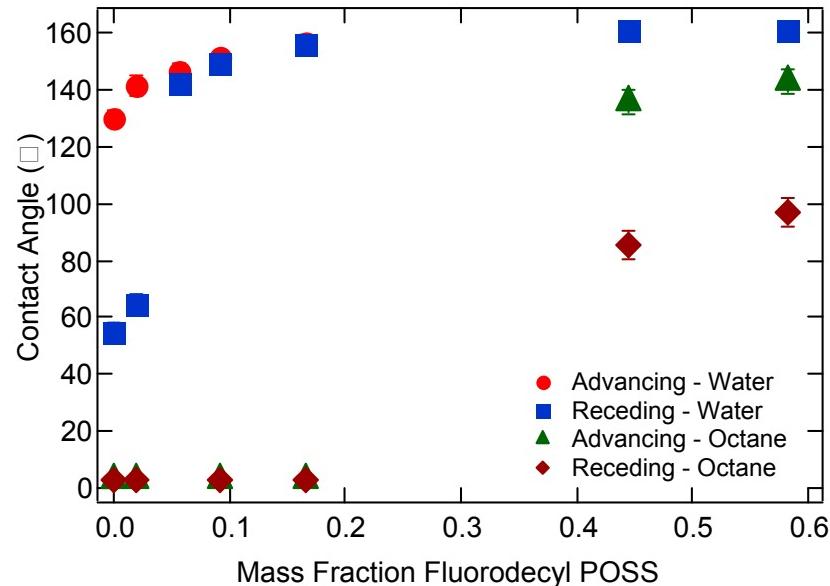


## Designing Superoleophobic Surfaces

Anish Tuteja,<sup>1</sup> Wonjae Choi,<sup>2</sup> Minglin Ma,<sup>1</sup> Joseph M. Mabry,<sup>3</sup> Sarah A. Mazzella,<sup>3</sup> Gregory C. Rutledge,<sup>1</sup> Gareth H. McKinley,<sup>2\*</sup> Robert E. Cohen,<sup>1\*</sup>



**Superhydrophobic  
Superoleophilic**



At low POSS concentrations many surfaces are *both* superhydrophobic and superoleophilic ( $\theta_{\text{alkane}}^* \approx 0^\circ$ ). Thus, these porous surfaces form ideal membranes for separating mixtures / dispersions of alkanes (oils) and water

*Science*, 2007, 318, 1618.

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# PEGDA + Fluorodecyl POSS



Can hydrogen bond with water

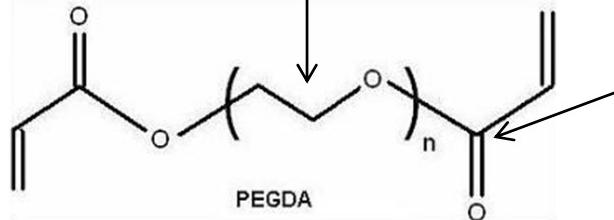
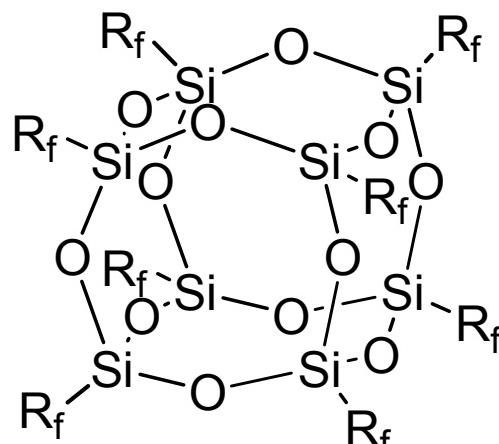


Photo-crosslinkable



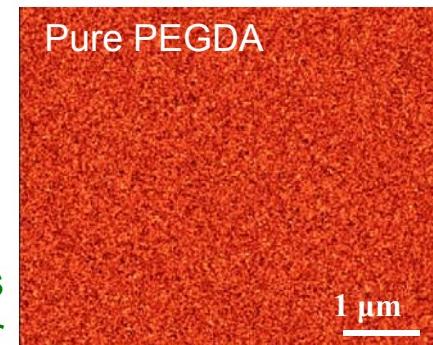
$$R_f = -\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-(CF}_2\text{)}_7\text{-CF}_3$$

Fluorodecyl POSS

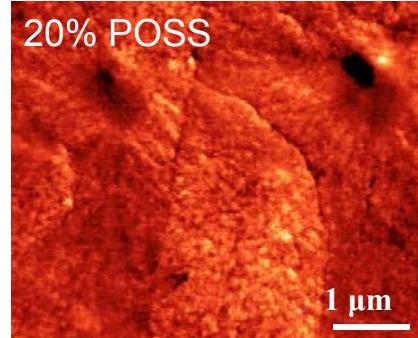
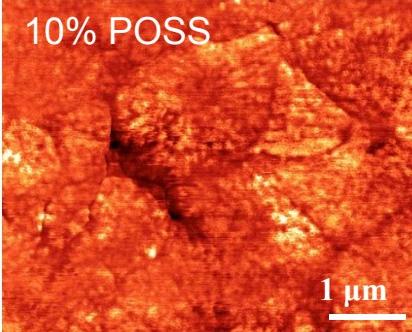
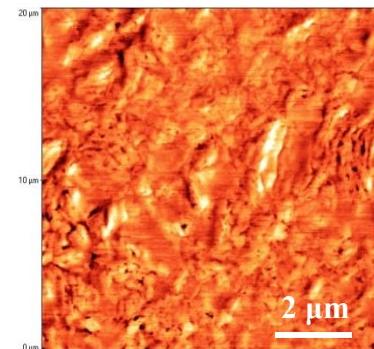
$$\gamma_{sv} \approx 8 \text{ mN/m}$$

Fluorodecyl POSS molecules preferentially segregate to the air interface and crystallize.

AFM Phase images of spin-coated PEGDA + POSS films



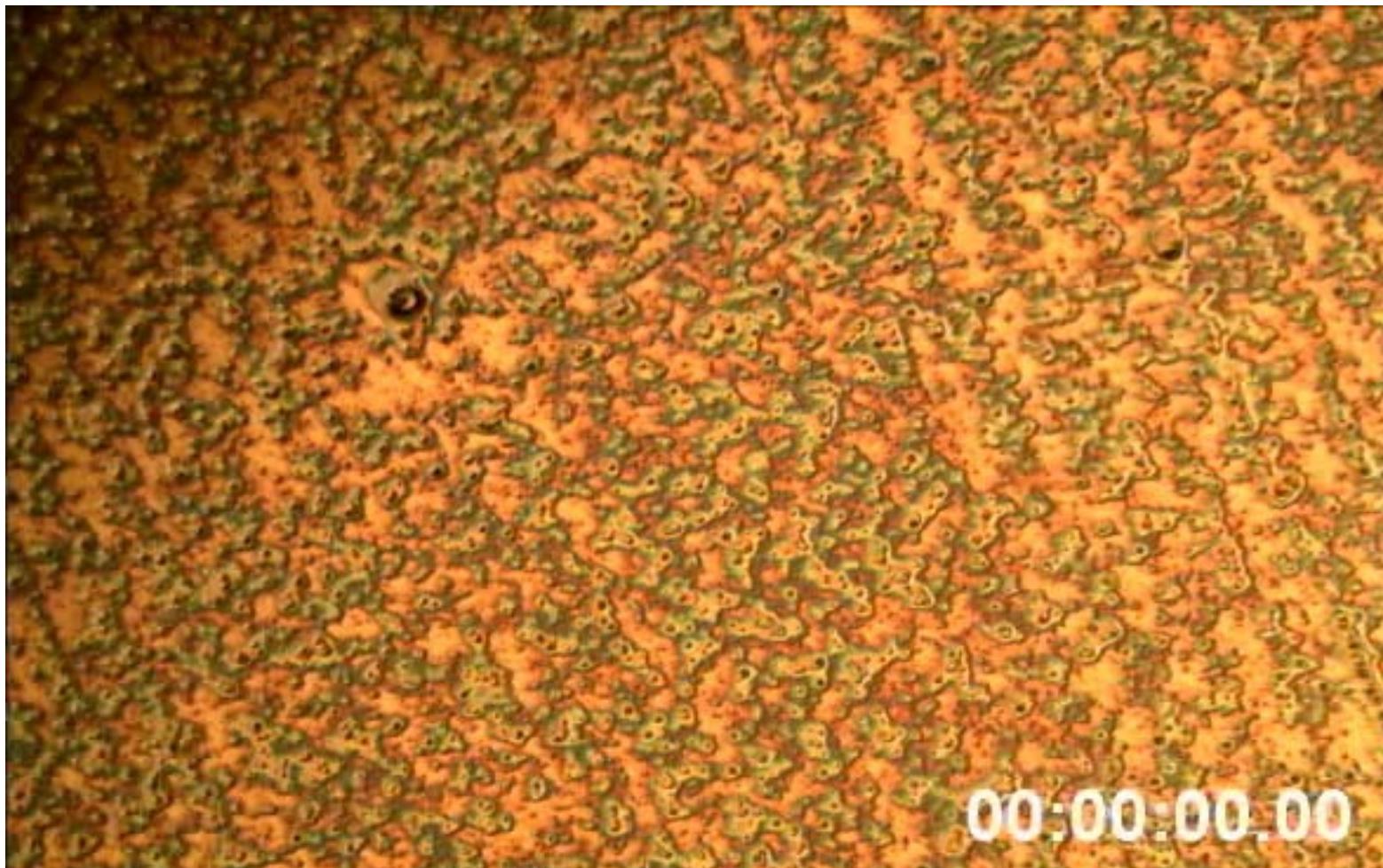
20% POSS  
Under water



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# PEGDA + Fluorodecyl POSS

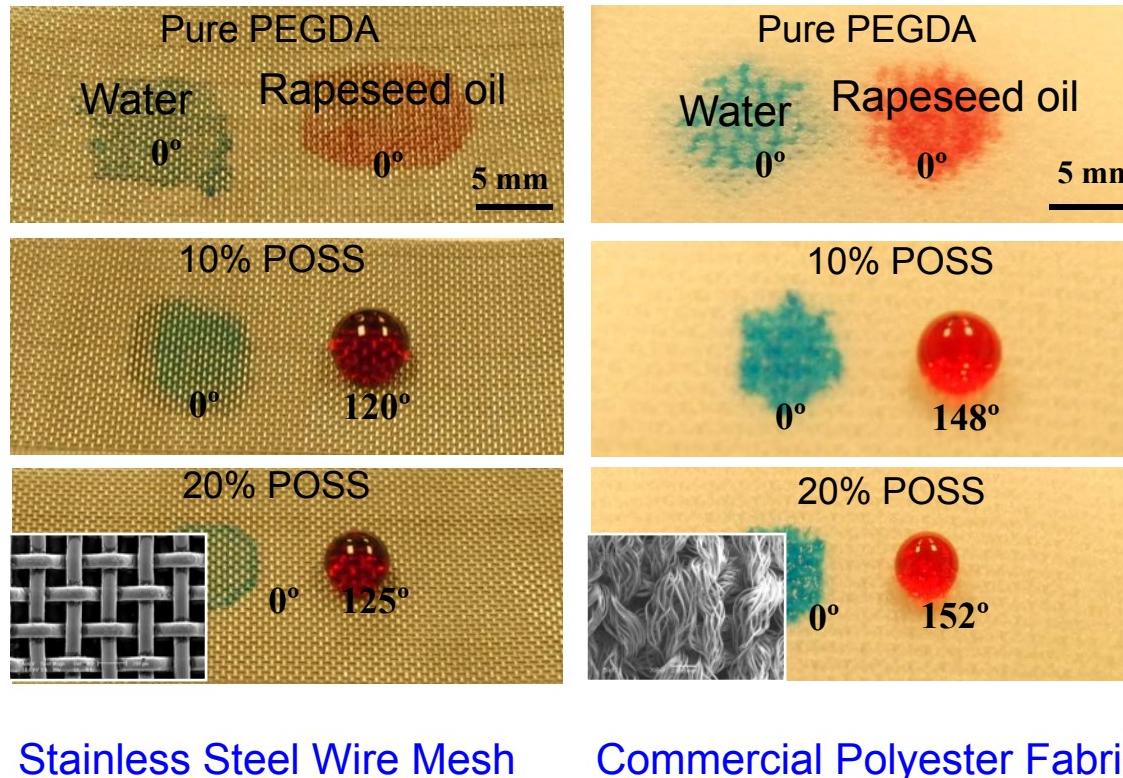




# PEGDA + fluorodecyl POSS blends



Surfaces with inherent re-entrant curvature **dip-coated** with PEGDA + POSS blends

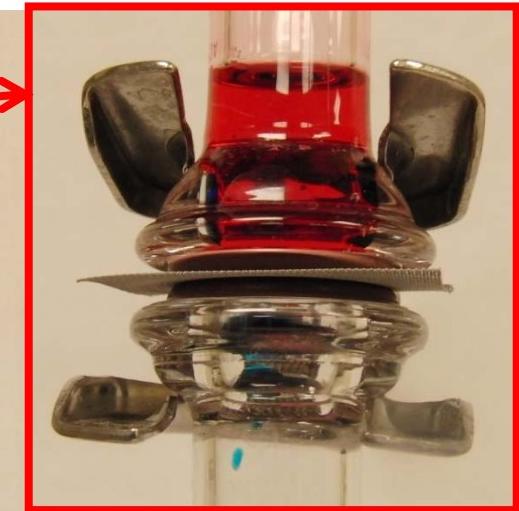


PEGDA surface reconfiguration leads to superhydrophilic behavior.



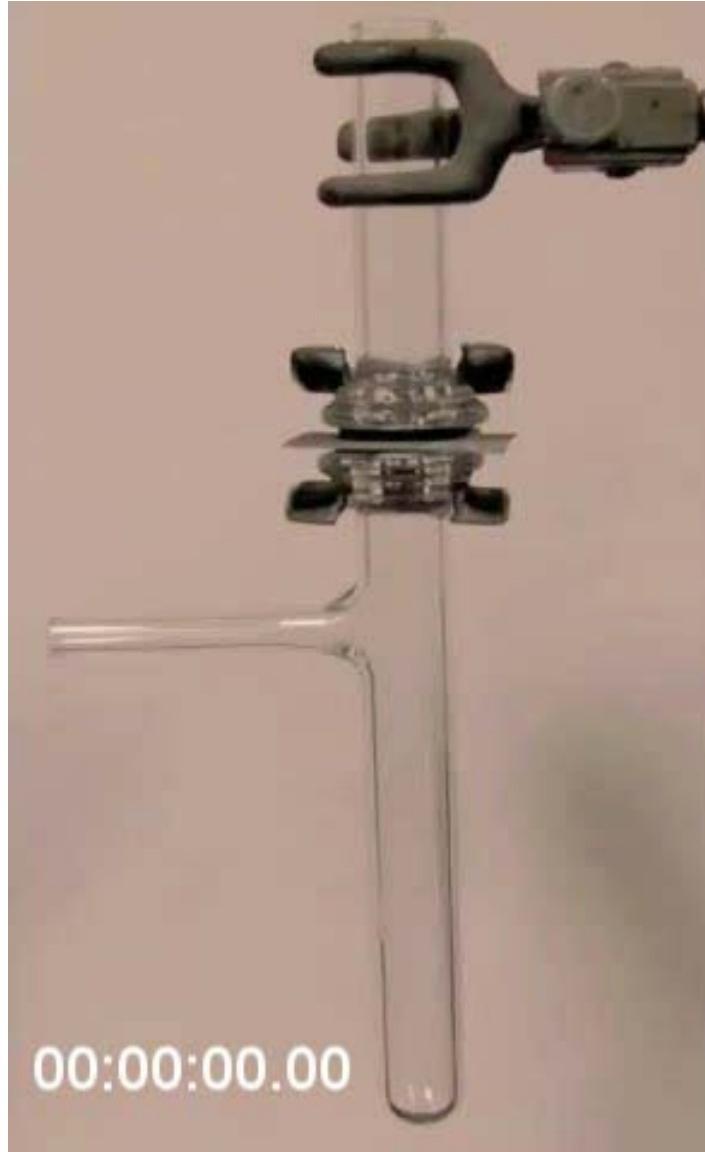
# Free oil – water separation

Stainless steel mesh coated with PEGDA + 20 wt% fluorodecyl POSS.





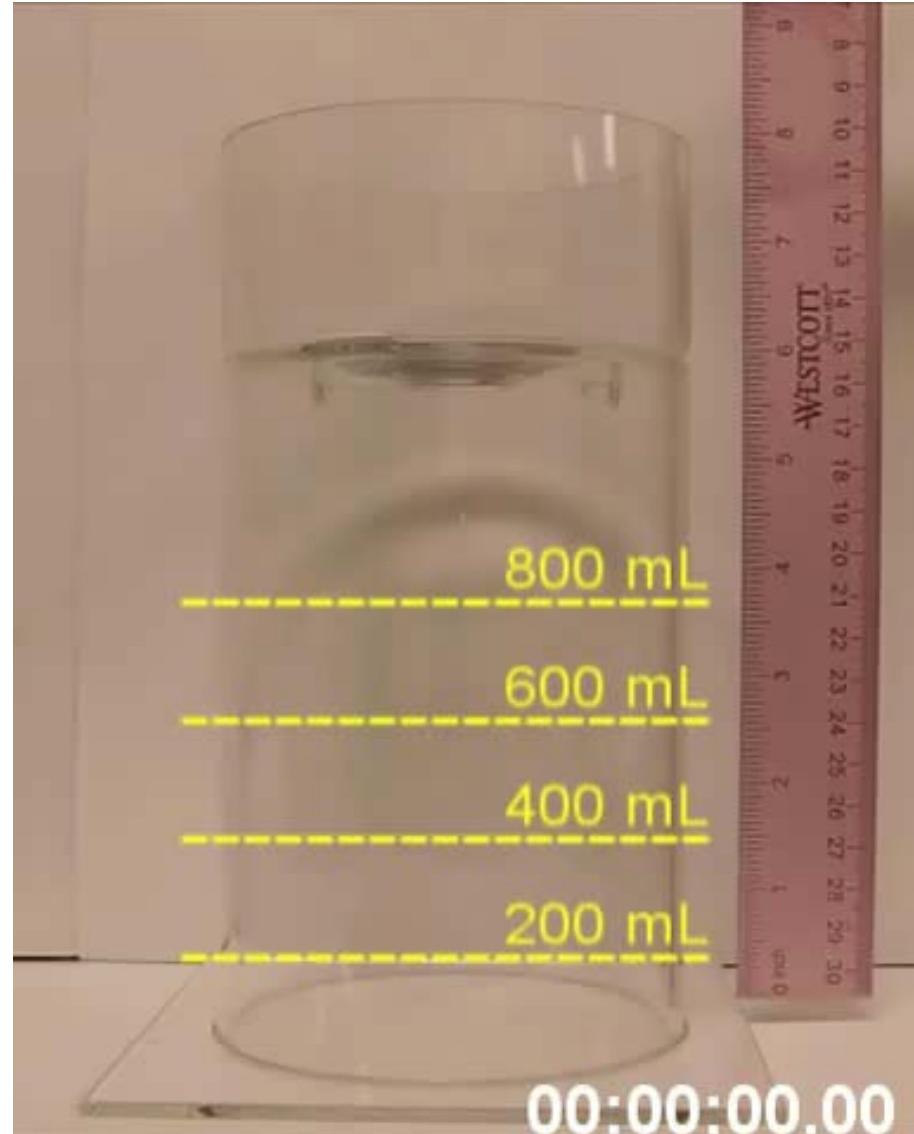
# Free oil – water separation



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# 1-Liter scale separation



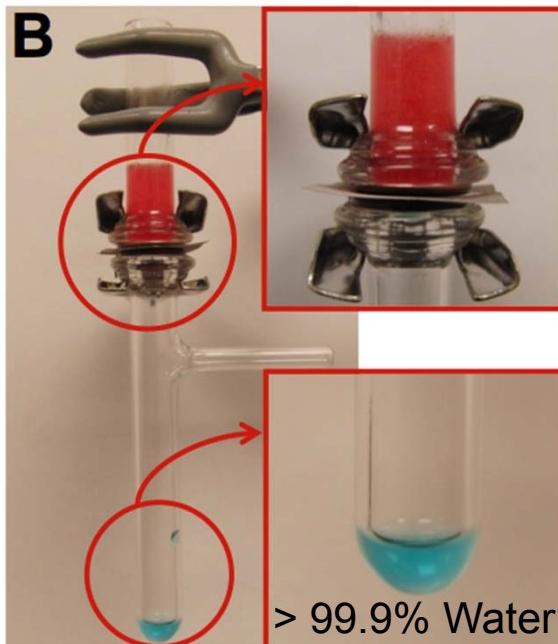
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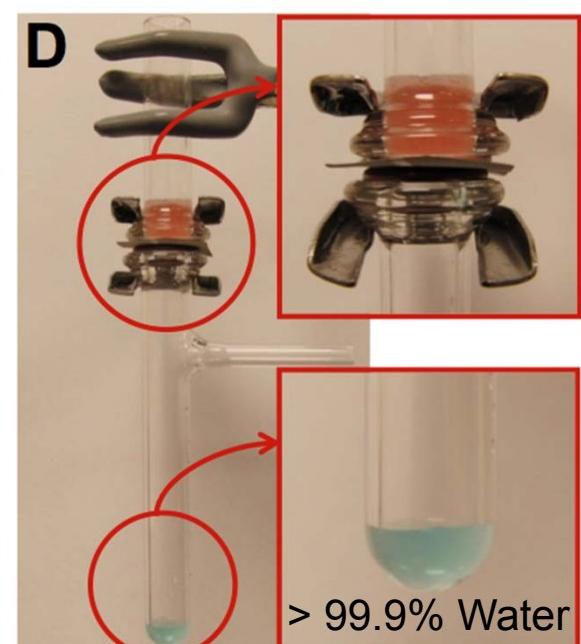
# Separation of Oil-Water Emulsions



Water-in-Oil Emulsion



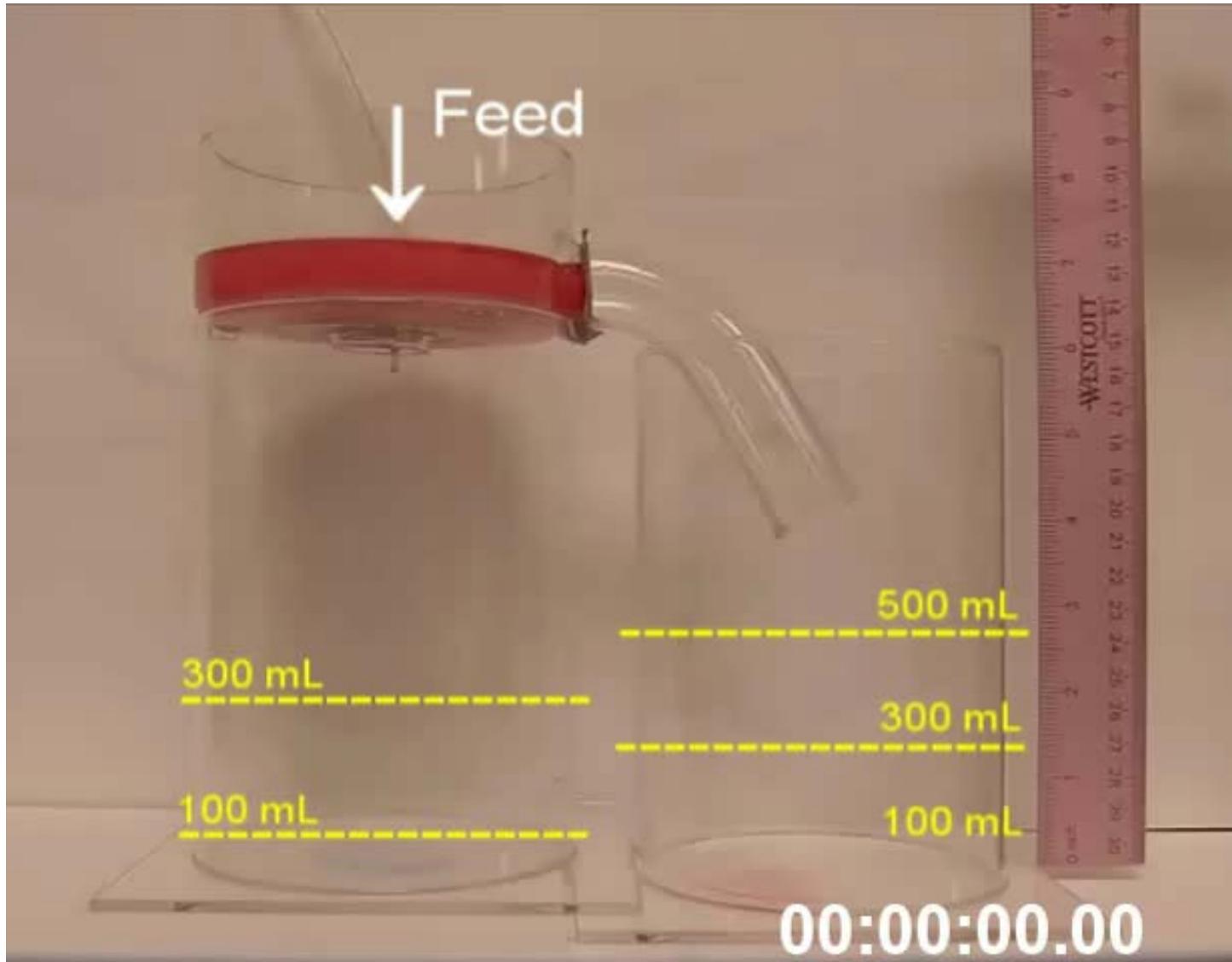
Oil-in-Water Emulsion



A simple, scalable, gravity-based system for the separation of both oil-in-water and water-in-oil emulsions. This is one of the first gravity-based systems to achieve such high emulsion separation efficiencies.



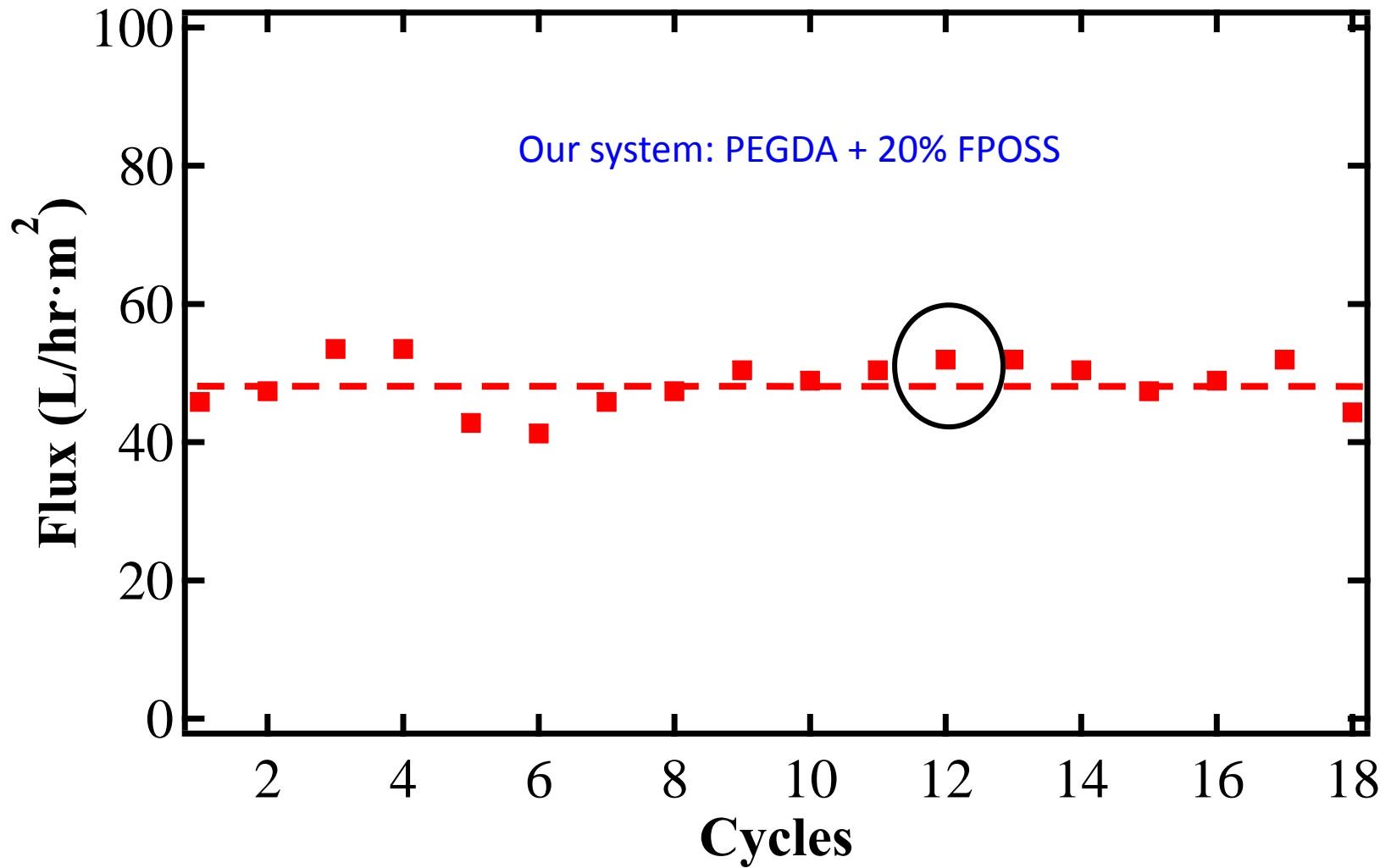
# Gravity-driven, continuous-flow device



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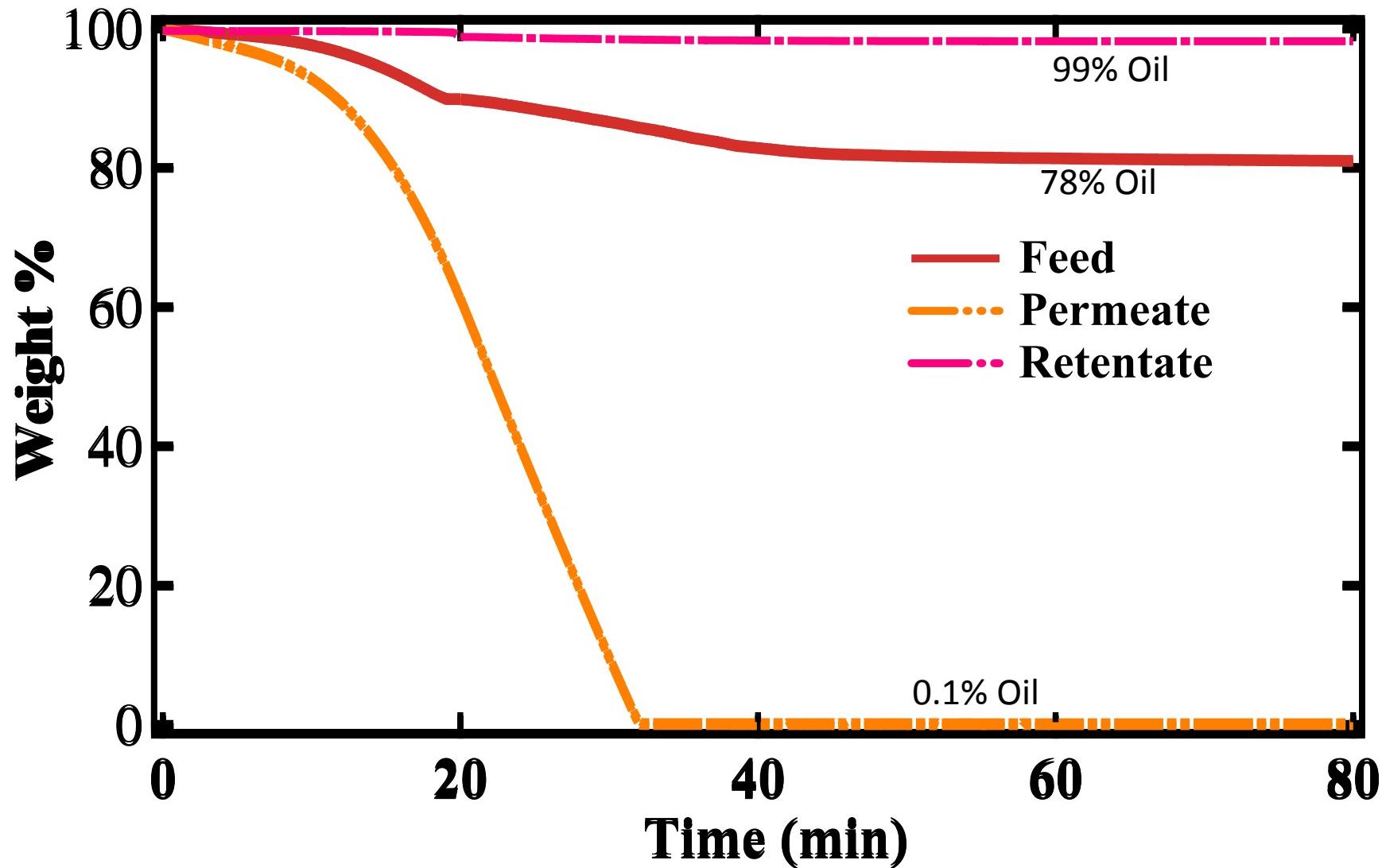


# Oil-Water Emulsion Separation





# Separation Efficiency





# Summary



- We have developed surfaces that for the first time are superhydrophilic and superoleophobic.
- Such surfaces are ideal for the separation of both free-oil and oil-water emulsions.
- The designed membranes, for the first time, allow continuous-flow oil-water emulsion separation.



# Acknowledgements



Professor Anish Tuteja  
*Oil/Water Separation Membranes*



Polymer Working Group  
*Fluorinated POSS*

## Financial Support



*Air Force Office of Scientific Research*



*Air Force Research Laboratory, Propulsion Directorate*



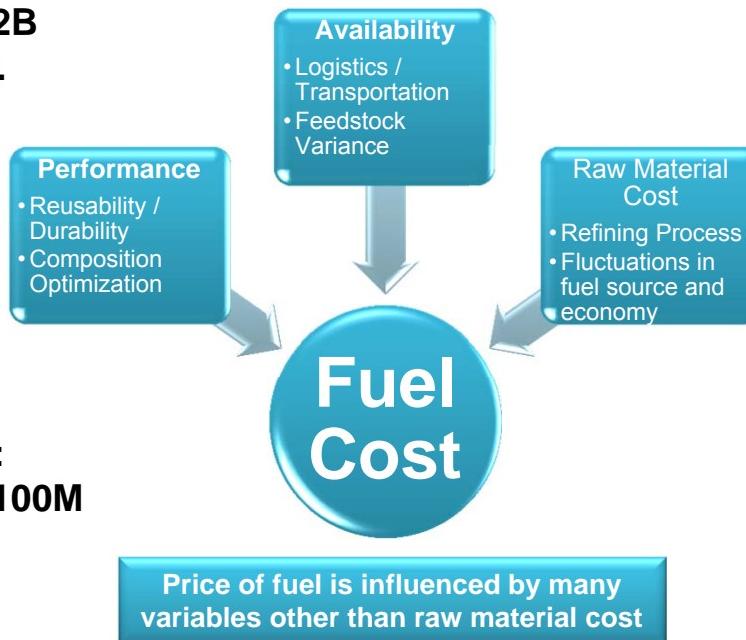
# Impact of a Novel Fuel Processing Technique



**Payload:**  
**\$0.5B - 2B**  
**10-15 yr.**

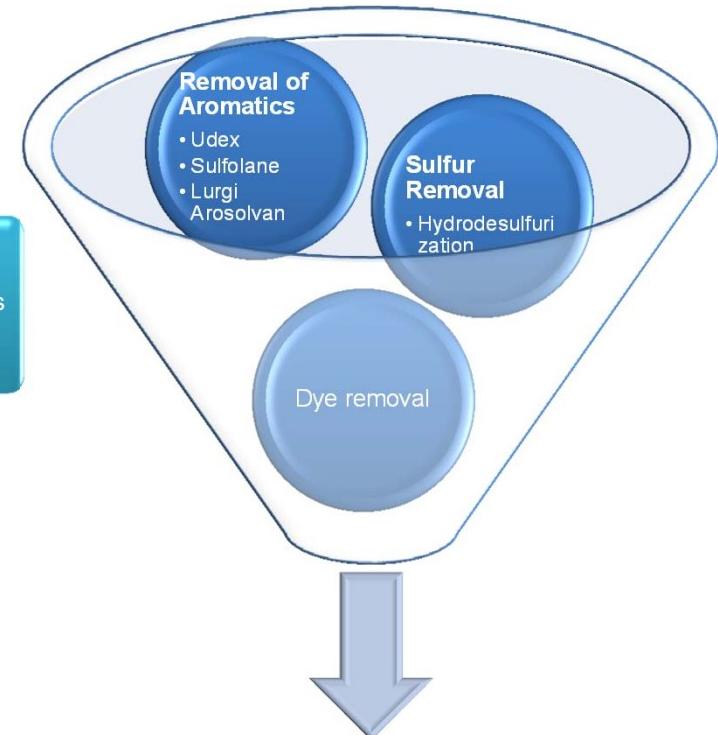
**Launch  
Vehicle:**  
**\$40M - 100M**

**Fuel**  
**\$100k**



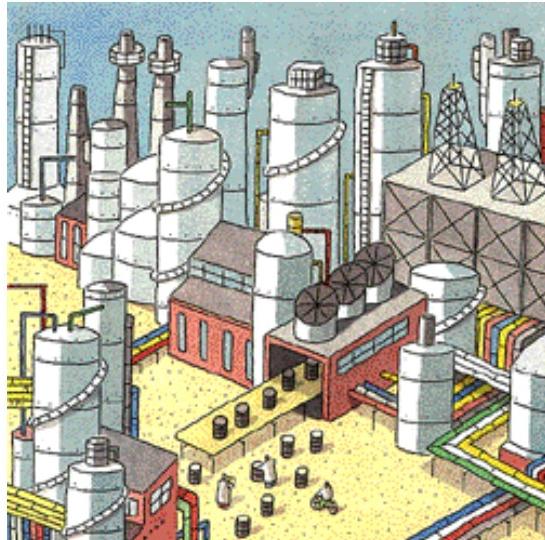
**A novel fuel processing technique will enable:**  
Composition modification without the need of large refineries  
Preparation of fuel in remote locations  
Assured access  
Reduced logistics costs

**Novel Liquid-Liquid Extraction Process**





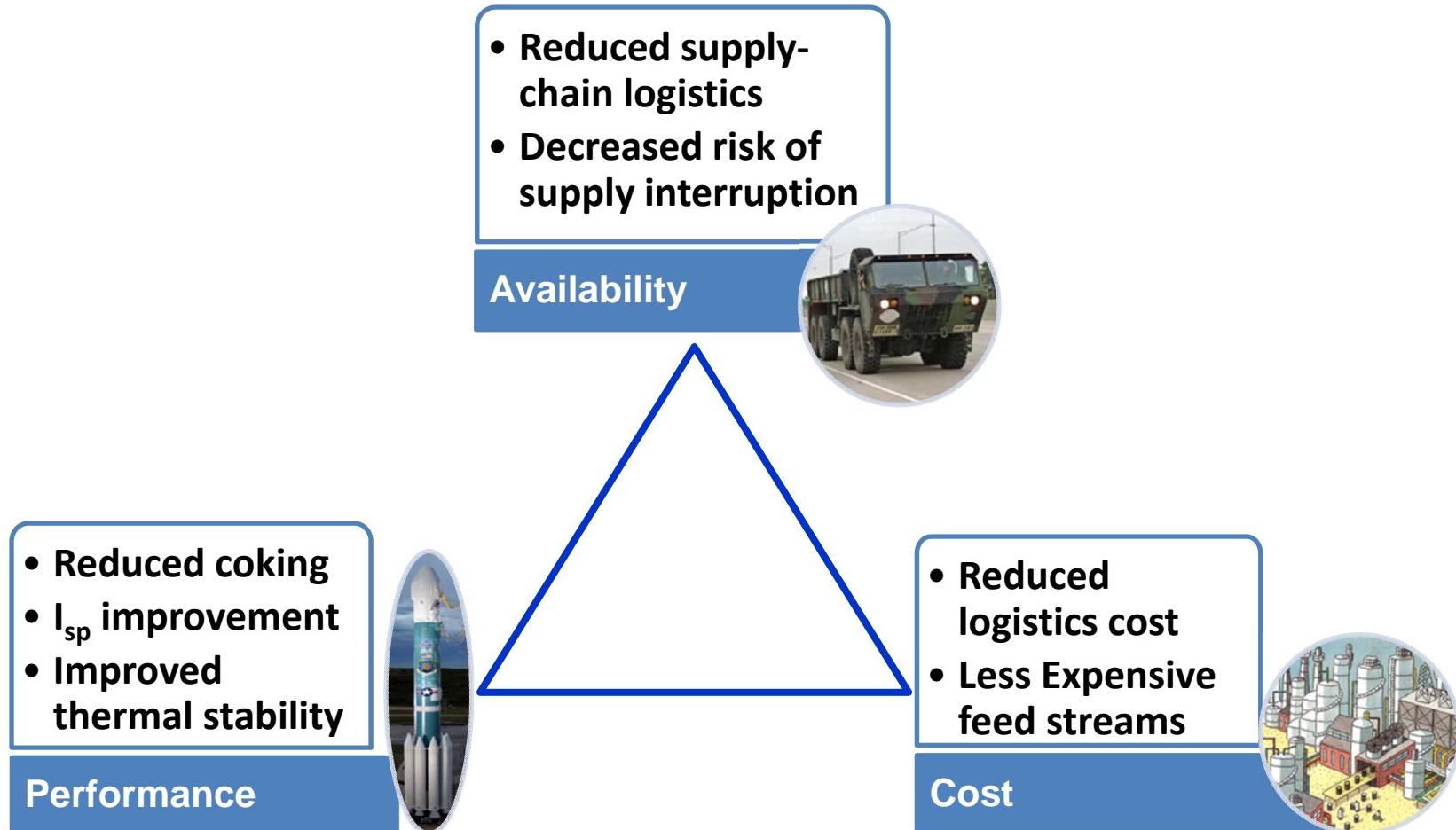
# Vision



**To develop the capability to produce high-performance military fuels at reduced cost with increased availability.**



# Thesis: Use $\ell/\ell$ extraction to provide improvements in several critical areas



**Objective:** Utilize liquid/liquid extraction process to improve performance, increase availability, and reduce cost of RP by producing these fuels from less expensive feed streams.

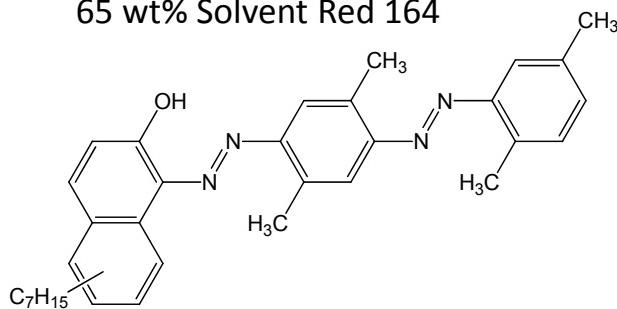


# Undesirables in RP-1

## Oil Red B4 (ORB4)

Dye in RP-1

65 wt% Solvent Red 164



15-30 wt% xylene

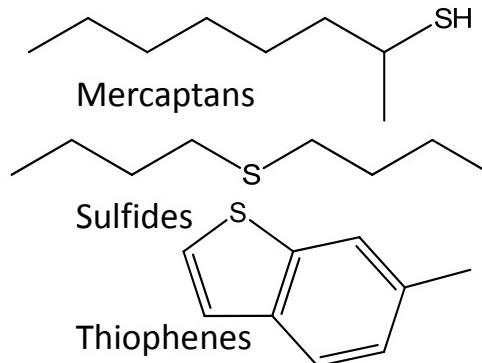
5-10 wt% ethylbenzene

Detrimental to  
Thermal Stability!

## Sulfur Compounds

Present in RP-1

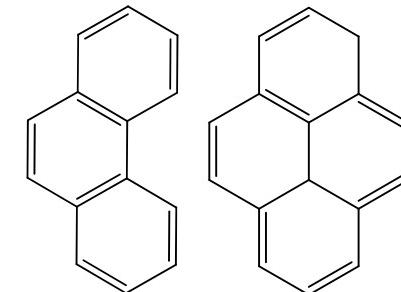
Concentration varies



## Aromatics

Present in RP-1

Concentration varies



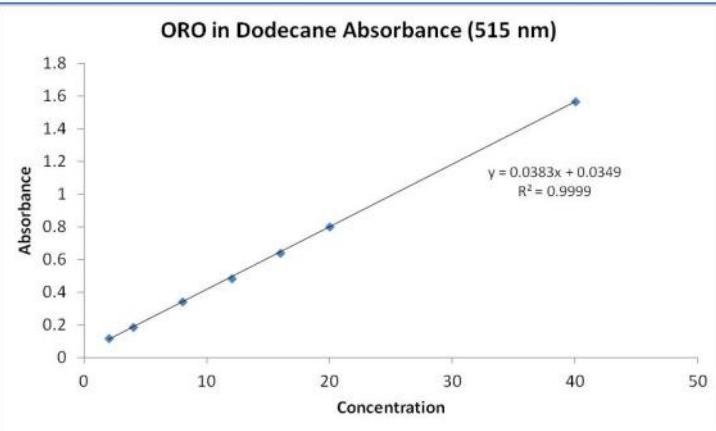
Detrimental to  
Performance

**RP-2 is expensive and requires an additional supply chain, which also consumes resources and may be put at risk due to unforeseen circumstances.**

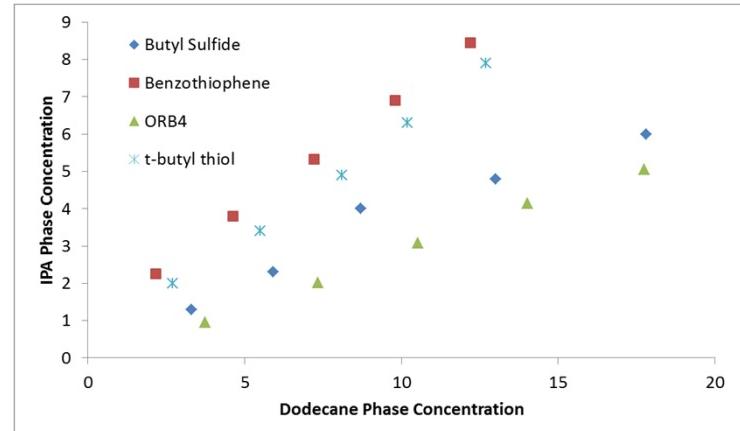
**Removal from less expensive feed streams will increase availability, reduce supply risk, reduce cost, and improve performance.**



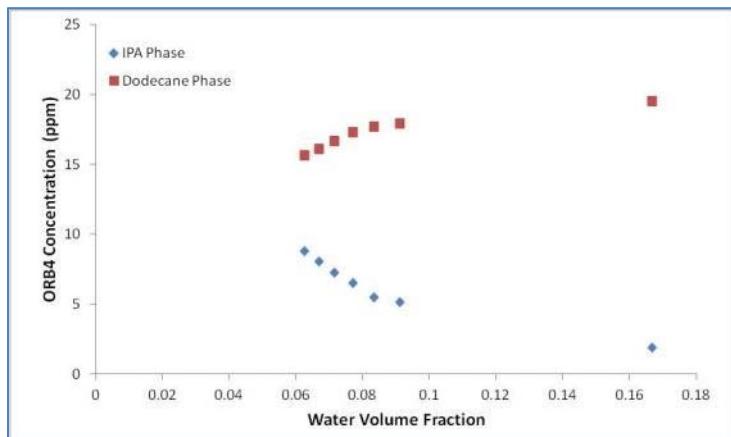
# Extraction Parameter Determination



Visible spectroscopy was used to determine concentration of dye from 2-40 ppm.



Small scale extractions show IPA is the most efficient extraction solvent for dyes.



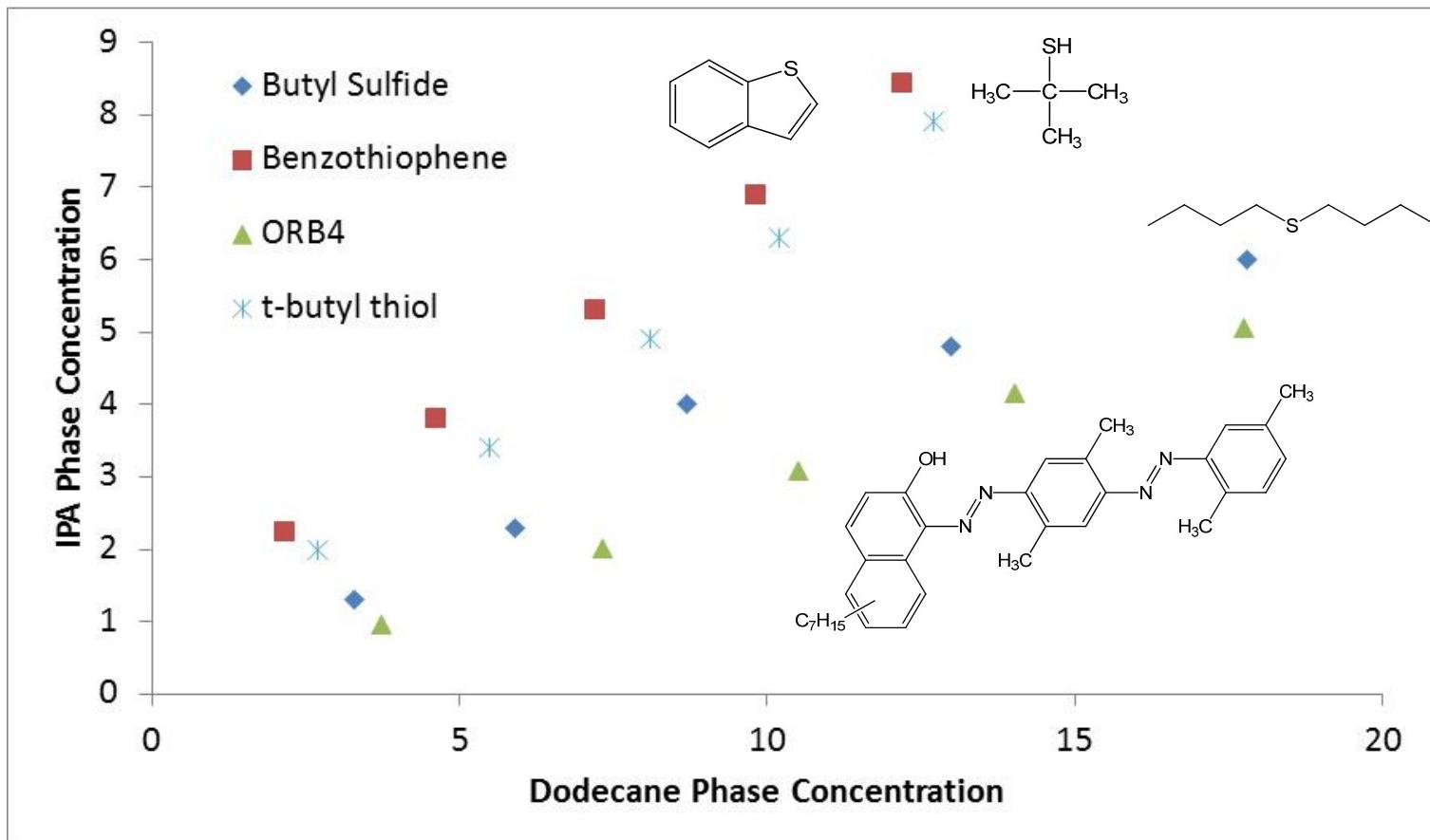
Higher IPA : Water ratio results in higher dye concentration.



Optimum IPA : Water ratio is ~13 : 1 based on small scale extractions.



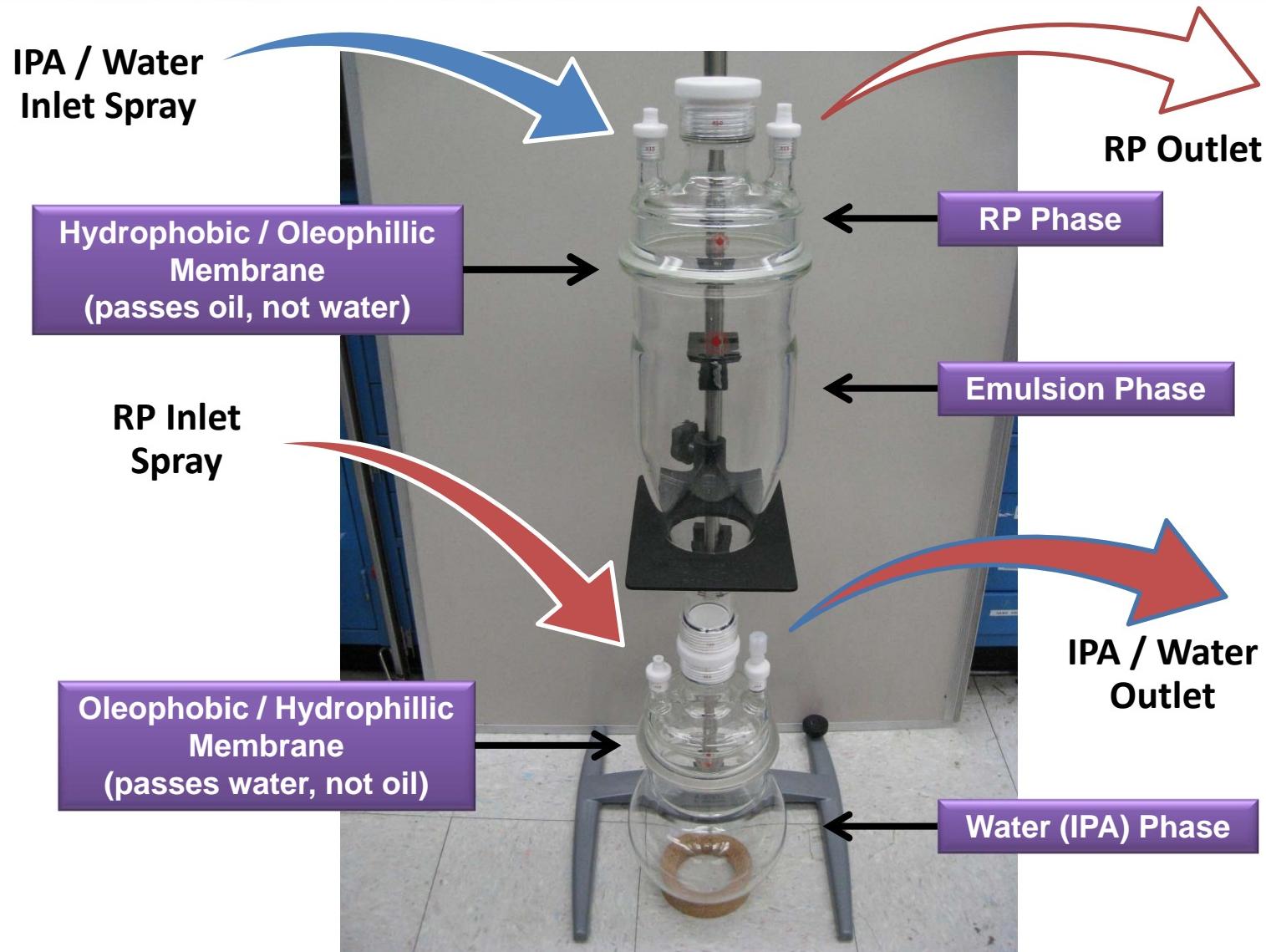
# Extraction Curves



Equilibrium curve for compounds extracted from dodecane with IPA:water 10:1 v:v ratio



# Extraction Apparatus





# Extraction of Sulfur from RP-1



Sulfur Compounds by GC-SCD (Sulfur Speciation)	Concentration (ppm)
C2 Thiophenes	<0.1
C3-C4 Thiophenes	1.6
C5 Thiophenes	6.3
C6 Thiophenes	6.1
C7 Thiophenes	5.8
C8-C9 Thiophenes	4.9
C10 Thiophenes	1.3
C11 Thiophenes	0.9
C12+ Thiophenes	2.0

**Standard Grade RP-1**  
(Errors are  $\pm 0.3$  ppm)



Sulfur Compounds by GC-SCD (Sulfur Speciation)	Concentration (ppm)
C2 Thiophenes	0.3
C3-C4 Thiophenes	1.4
C5 Thiophenes	3.7
C6 Thiophenes	3.5
C7 Thiophenes	4.1
C8-C9 Thiophenes	2.9
C10 Thiophenes	0.6
C11 Thiophenes	0.6
C12+ Thiophenes	<0.1

**Standard Grade RP-1 after extraction with 10:1 IPA water in extraction apparatus**





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# Acknowledgements



Professor Anish Tuteja

*Oil/Water Separation Membranes*



Polymer Working Group

*Fluorinated POSS and Extraction Work*

## Financial Support



*Air Force Office of Scientific Research*



*Air Force Research Laboratory, Aerospace Systems  
Directorate*

QUESTIONS?



**U.S. AIR FORCE**